

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 L-02 DODE-00 PCH-02

SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 MC-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

RSC-01 NSC-05 IGA-01 /067 R

DRAFTED BY PM/SAS-RWSMITH:DD

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P 072303Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029033

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, KE

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR KENYA

REFERENCE: NAIROBI 7372

1. IN RESPONSE TO RECENT KENYAN REQUESTS FOR USG MILITARY ASSISTANCE, THE SECRETARY HAS APPROVED THE INITIATION OF CERTAIN STEPS TO HELP MEET GOK DEFENSE NEEDS. INCLUDED IN THESE STEPS IS AN APPROACH TO THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN TO DETERMINE THE AVAILABILITY AND COST OF IRANIAN FMS-PROVIDED F-5A'S IN ANTICIPATION THAT THE USG COULD REPURCHASE SOME
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OF THESE AIRCRAFT FOR RESALE TO KENYA.

2. GOK HAS TOLD US THAT IT WISHES TO OBTAIN SQUADRON OF F-5E'S, BUT CURRENT PRICE AND AVAILABILITY DATA SHOW DIFFICULTY IN MEETING THIS REQUIREMENT IN NEAR FUTURE. WE BELIEVE THAT F-5A AIRCRAFT CONSTITUTES VIABLE ALTERNATIVE, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF PRICE. ONLY SOURCE FOR F-5A'S AT THIS TIME IS IRAN. ACCORDINGLY, WE WISH TO FOLLOW UP RECENT GOI ENQUIRIES TO USAF REGARDING POTENTIAL PURCHASERS OF IRANIAN FMS F-5A AND B AIRCRAFT. IT WOULD ALSO BE DESIRABLE TO REACQUIRE AGE AND SPARES IF POSSIBLE.

3. IN VIEW OF CERTAIN USG RESPONSIBILITIES FOR FUTURE KENYAN TRAINING AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT, AS WELL AS FOR POLITICAL REASONS, WE PREFER THAT USG REPURCHASE THESE AIRCRAFT FROM IRAN FOR RESALE TO KENYA THROUGH FMS PROCEDURES, RATHER THAN SIMPLY HAVING GOI CONDUCT THIRD-PARTY TRANSFER TO KENYA.

4. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO INITIATE EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS WITH GOI AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY TO DETERMINE AVAILABILITY, COST, AND CONDITION OF 10 F-5A'S, 2-3 F-5B'S AND RELATED AGE AND SPARES (ALL PROVIDED IRAN UNDER FMS) FOR USG REPURCHASE. SINCE WE MUST FIRST KNOW WHETHER IRAN WOULD AGREE TO SELL THESE AIRCRAFT BACK TO US, WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED THE F-5A OPTION WITH THE GOK. IF IT IS NECESSARY TO MENTION GOK AS LIKELY RECIPIENT OF THESE AIRCRAFT, YOU SHOULD REQUEST GOI TO KEEP THAT INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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